

H.Con.Res. 188- Condemning the attack on the AMIA Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in July 1994, and for other purposes

H.Con.Res. 188 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) on July 18, 2007 and was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs Committee but was never considered.

H.Con.Res. 188 is expected to be considered on the Floor of the House of Representatives on July 30, 2007.

Summary

H.Con.Res. 188 condemns the attack on the AMIA Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in July 1994.

Background

On July 18, 1994, 85 innocent people were killed and 300 were wounded when the Argentine Jewish Mutual Association (AMIA) was bombed in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Extensive evidence links the planning of the attacks to the Government of Iran, and the execution of the attacks to the terrorist group Hezbollah, which is based in Lebanon, supported by Syria, and sponsored by Iran.

On October 25, 2006, the State Prosecutor of Argentina concluded that the AMIA bombing had been approved in advance by Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamene'i, Iran's then-leader Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, Iran's then-Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, and Iran's then-Minister of Security and Intelligence Ali Fallahijan;

Also on October 25, 2006, the State Prosecutor of Argentina identified Ibrahim Hussein Berro, a Lebanese citizen and member of Hezbollah, as the suicide bomber who primarily carried out the attack on the AMIA.

On November 9, 2006, Argentine Judge Rodolfo Canicoba Corral issued several arrest warrants for suspected terrorists involved in the bombing, including, Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, a former leader of Iran and the current chairman of Iran's Expediency Council.

On March 5, 2007, the Executive Committee of INTERPOL supported the issuance of arrest warrants. Iran has appealed the INTERPOL Executive Committee's decision, and the General Assembly of INTERPOL will issue a final ruling on the arrest warrants when it meets in Morocco in November 2007.

CBO Estimate

At the time of publication the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) had not yet scored this legislation.

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